

City of Burbank  
Mayor David Laurell  
275 E. Olive Ave.  
Burbank, CA 91510

October 8, 2002

The Federal Communications Commission  
c/o Marlene H. Dortch  
Commission Secretary  
445 12th Street SW, CY-B402,  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Proceeding 02-306

Dear Commissioners:

As the Mayor of Burbank, I have witnessed regulation and deregulation firsthand as it impacts the many vital businesses of this city. We are proud of our entertainment and other industries and depend on them for quality jobs and economic stability. I also understand that in order for both the industry and the consumer to gain the benefits of a balanced market, there needs to be real competition.

Competition is clearly beneficial to everyone involved – creating a healthy economic environment with lower prices, more choices and improvements in the industry. Competition is good for the economy, it's good for consumers and it's good for California.

The Federal Communications Commission has the ability to ensure competition exists in the long distance phone market. It is only fair that SBC Pacific Bell, currently the only company locked out of the market, be allowed to provide long distance in California. The benefits of increased competition in the long distance market have already been seen in 23 other states across the Union and over 140 million people have access to the savings, investment and service from this increase in competition.

It is my hope that California will be the next state that benefits from a more competitive telecommunications market. SBC Pacific Bell's long distance application should be approved now.

Sincerely,  
David Laurell  
Mayor